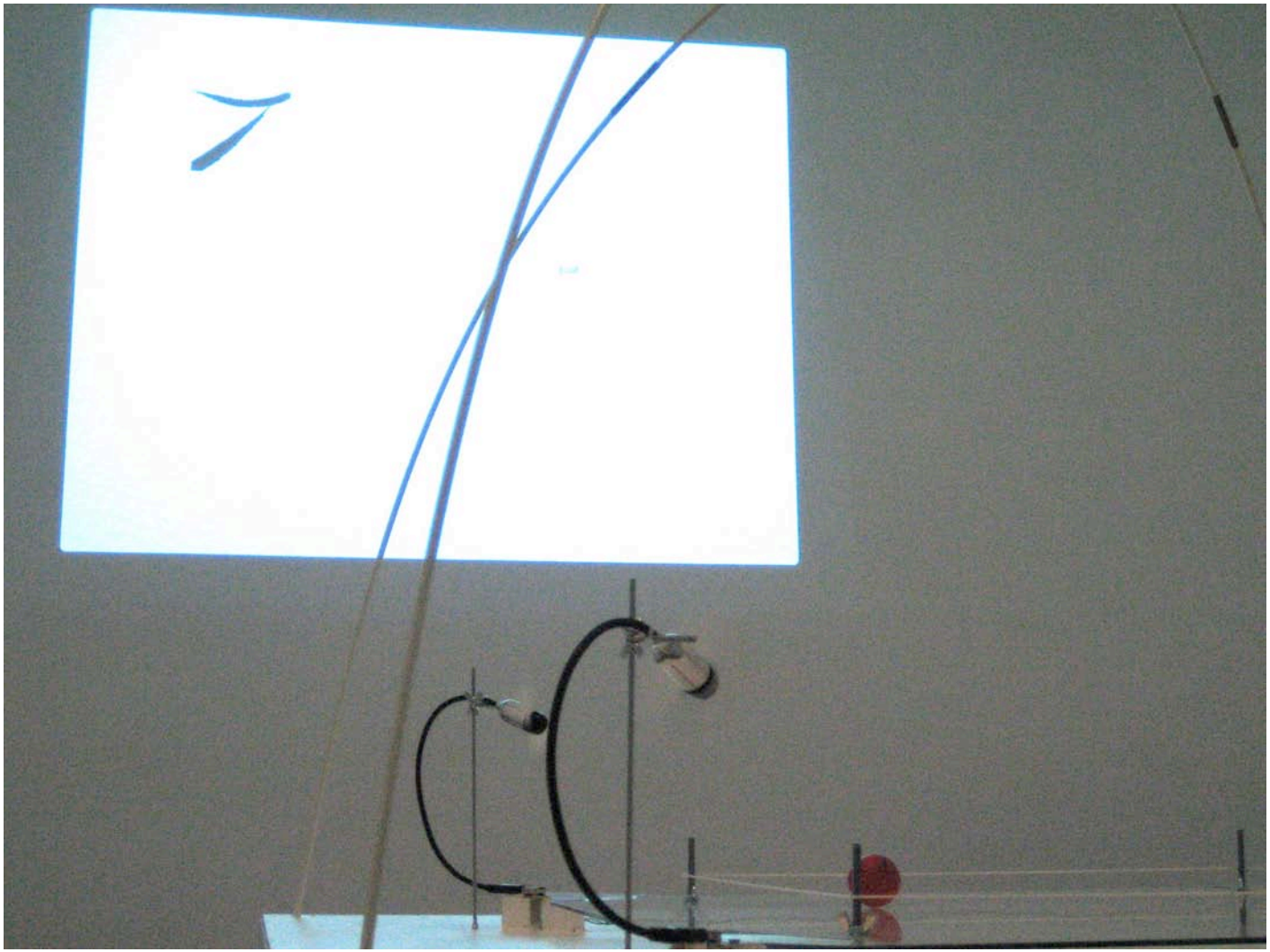
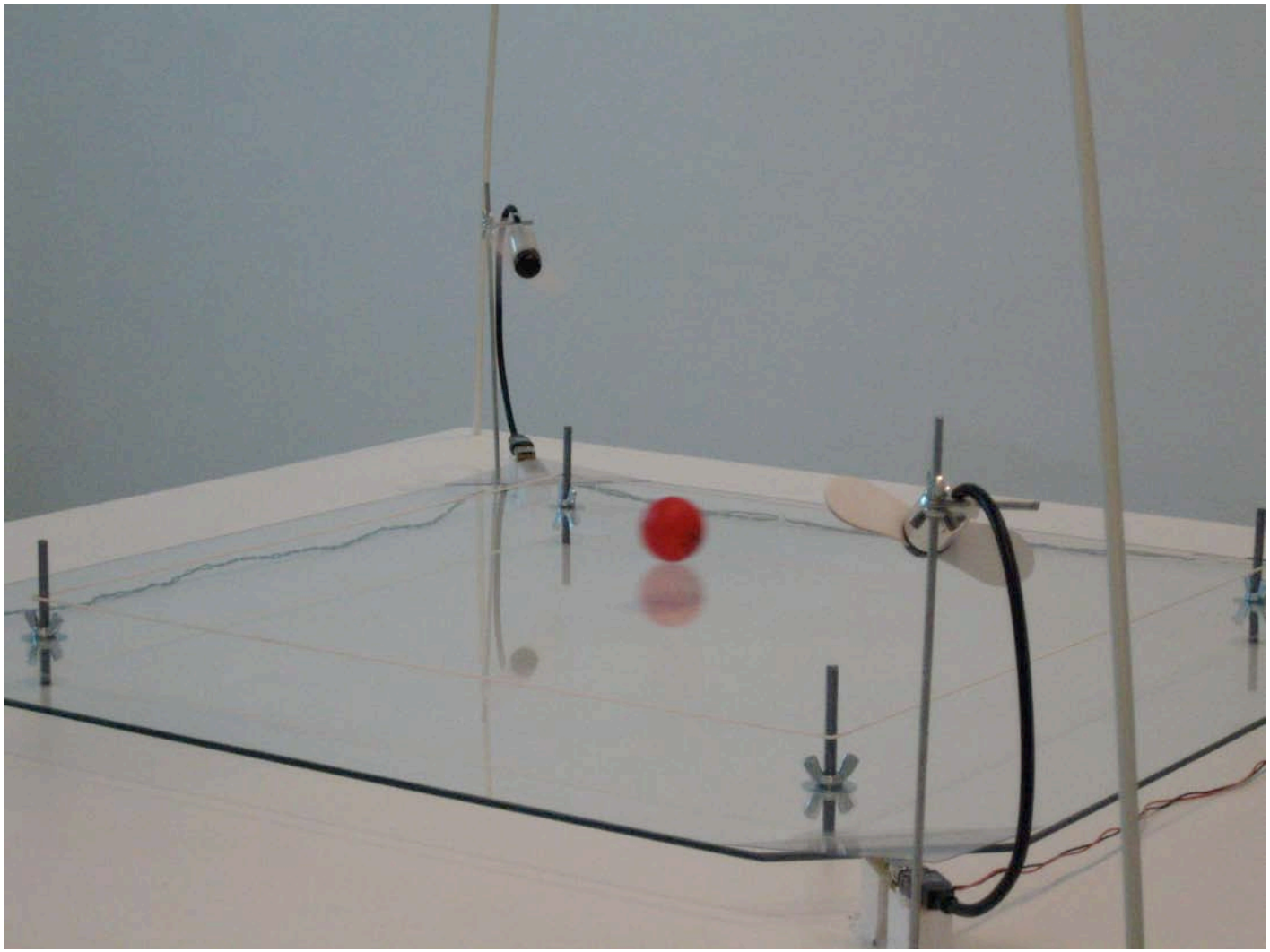
»... YOU CAN BE THE MASTER OF YOUR BOAT,
BUT YOU ARE NOT THE MASTER OF THE WHOLE BLUE SEA.»

Installation by Tao G. Vrhovec Samboloec

2005





THE FOLKSONG FROM ISLAND KRK:

MARICE DJEVOJKO

Marice, djevojko, Marice,
djevojko, Marice djevojko,

ti si dobra roda.

Ti ne peri robu,
ti ne peri robu, ti ne peri robu

kraj mojega broda.

Ako si gospodar,
ako si
gospodar, ako si gospodar

od svojega broda,

ma nisi gospodar,
ma nisi gospodar, ma nisi gospodar

od sinjega mora.

MARICE MAIDEN

Marice, maiden, Marice,
Maiden, Marice maiden,

You're of good kin.

Don't wash your wares,
Don't wash your wares, don't wash your wares

Beside my boat.

You can be the master
You can be
The master, you can be the master

Of your boat,

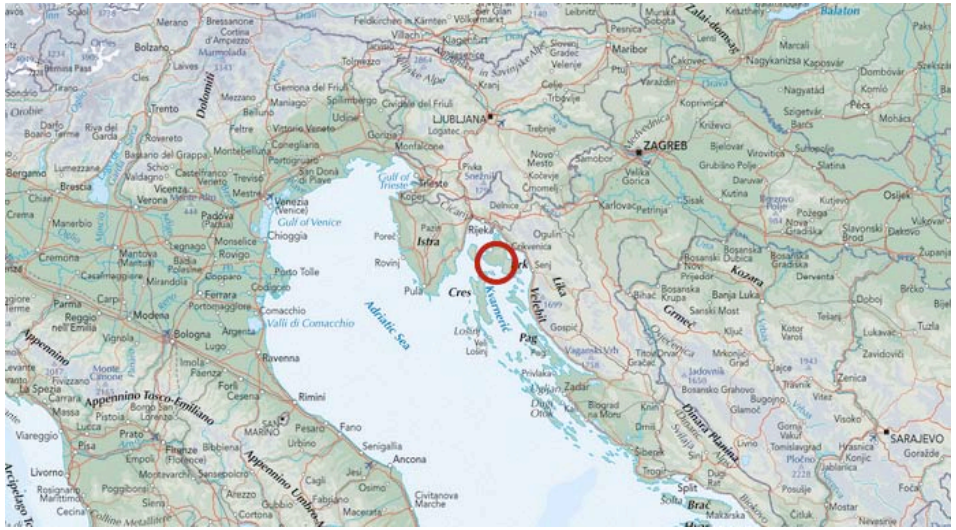
But you are not the master,
But you are not the master, but you are not the master

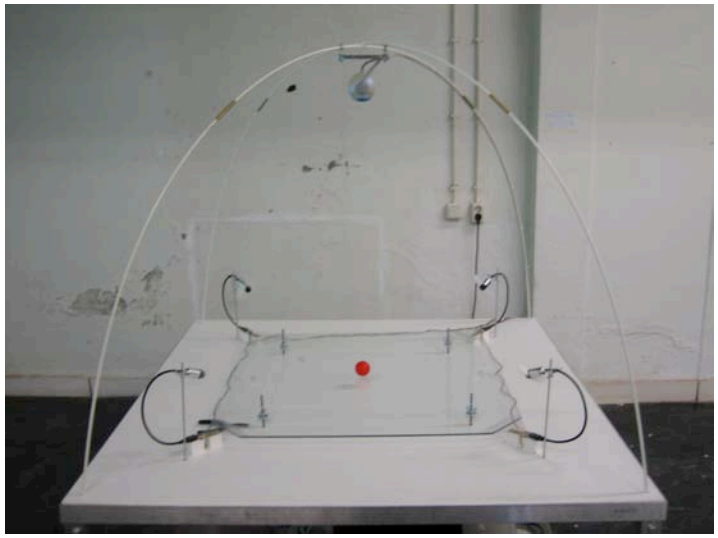
Of the whole blue sea.

CONCEPT: Mechanical metaphor

The title of the installation is a quote from a folk song from island KRK in Croatia. All the folk songs there are from ancient times before Christianity, and also musically have little to do with European western tradition on one hand, and occidental, Balkan tradition on the other hand.

By using mechanization, wind dynamics and computer programming in a poetic way, the installation is literary materializing the meaning of the last verse of the song.
It is retelling the ancient wisdom by creating a mechanical metaphor.



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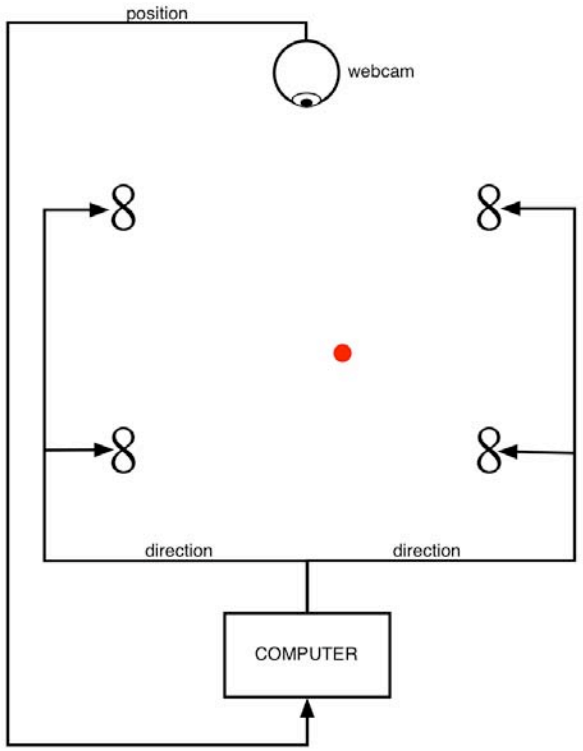
ALGORHYTHM:

GO WHERE YOU ARE!
KEEP MOVING!

The ball is being scanned  by webcam, which is connected to computer.
The computer calculates the position of the ball, according to which
it controls 4 fans to stear the ball by blowing the wind.
The present position of the ball is also defined as target position of the ball
– where it has to go.

Since the algorhythm is composed of two contradicting commands,
and the whole system of controlling the ball by blowing wind is not
very precise, the ball doesn't stay still, but rather keeps moving in an
intricate and unpredictable way.

All the programming is done in Max/Msp – Jitter programming environment.



PROJECTION – live animation:

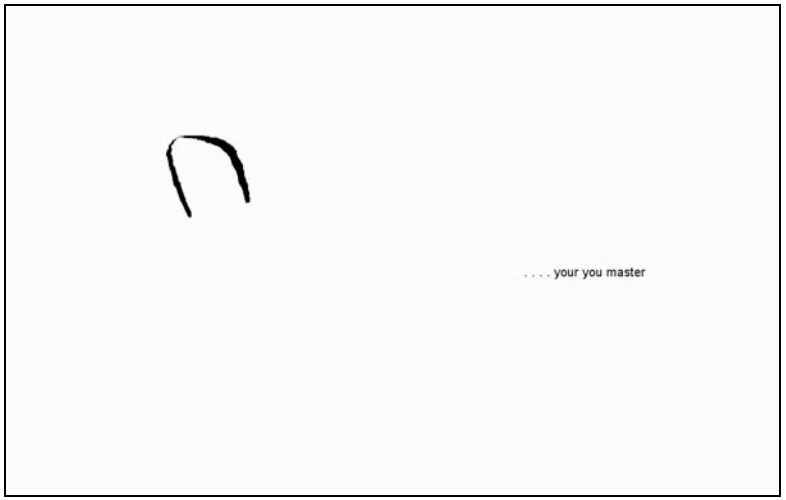
Projection consists of  2 elements:

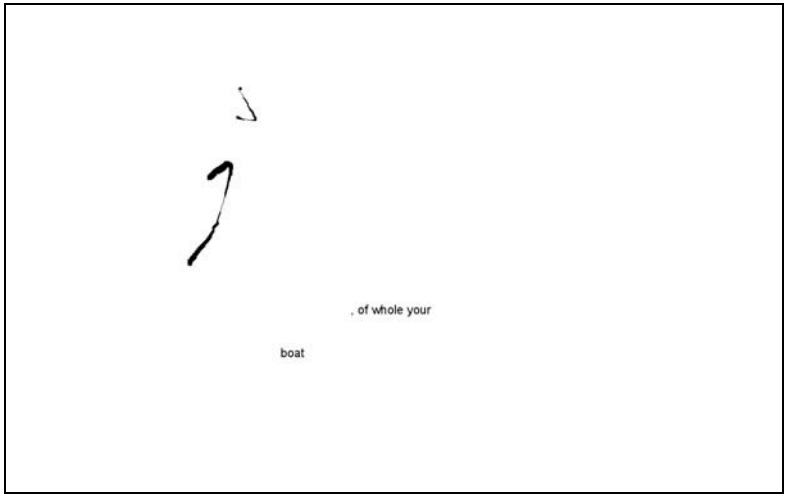
- Live animation of tracing the movement of the ball.
Thickness of the line changes according to the speed of the ball.

- Randomized text of the last verse, triggered by the
movement of the ball.

SOUND

The recording of original folk song is playing all the time.
Every time new words appear on the projection, one can hear a very low percussive sound.



TECHNICAL RIDER

- 1 video beamer with long VGA cable.

- 1 Stereo PA or HiFi - amplifier, 2 speakers with GOOD LOW FREQUENCY RESPONSE.

- 1 Mackintosh G4 computer – 1 Giga or more processor speed – can be: Mac Mini, iBook or Powerbook model.
(Has to fit under the table).
If it is Mac Mini, then keyboard, flat screen and mouse are also required.

- Electricity cables and splitters.

INSTALLATION MEASURES:

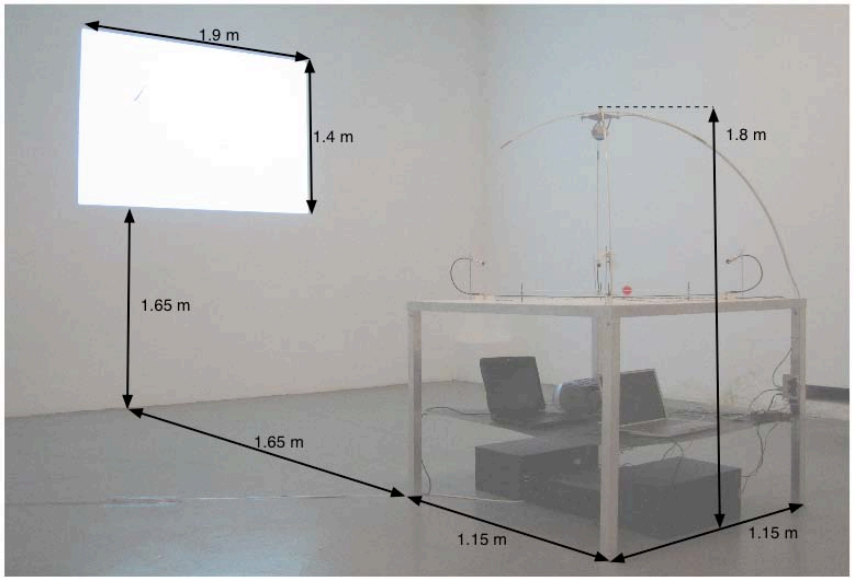
Installation space: cca.: 5 m x 7 m

Object: 1.5 m x 1.5 m x 1.8 m
Projection size: 1.9 m x 1.4 m
Projection height: 1.65 m
Distance between object and projection: 1.65 m

Projection size, height and distance between object and projection are not entirely fixed and can vary according to the space of the installation.

INSTALLATION SETUP TIME:

2 full days



ANIMATION SNAPSHOTS:

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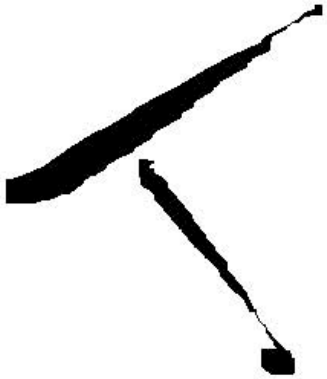

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